ALL SAINTS' CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Young Carers Policy

"*Learning to love; loving to learn"*

"A new command I give you, Love one another.

As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

John 13:34

Ratified by Full Governing Boday: 22nd September 2026

Review date: September 2027

Policy Statement

At All Saints C Of E Primary School, we are committed to identifying, supporting, and raising awareness of young carers within our school community. We recognise that a young carer is a child or young person under the age of 18 who helps to care for a family member or friend who has a disability, long-term illness, mental health condition, substance misuse issue, or other additional need.
We understand that caring responsibilities can have a significant impact on a child's emotional wellbeing, attendance, attainment, relationships, and participation in school life. We are committed to ensuring that young carers are valued, supported, and given every opportunity to achieve their full potential.

Aims

The school aims to:

- ·Identify young carers as early as possible.
- Provide appropriate support to reduce barriers to learning and wellbeing.
- ·Promote understanding and awareness of young carers across the school community.
- ·Ensure young carers are treated with sensitivity, respect, and confidentiality.
- ·Listen to and act upon the views, experiences, and needs of young carers.
- ·Work collaboratively with families and external agencies to provide effective support.

Identification of Young Carers

The school will:
· Create a safe environment where pupils feel able to discuss caring responsibilities.
· Provide opportunities for pupils and families to self-identify.
· Ensure staff understand indicators that may suggest a pupil has caring responsibilities.
· Maintain appropriate records of identified young carers in line with data protection requirements.
Staff Training and Awareness
The school is committed to ensuring that all staff understand the needs and experiences of young carers.
The school will:
· Provide regular training and awareness-raising for all staff, including teaching staff, support staff, office staff, lunchtime supervisors, and governors.
· Include information about young carers as part of staff induction procedures.
· Ensure staff understand how caring responsibilities may affect attendance, punctuality, behaviour, attainment, wellbeing, and participation in school activities.
· Share updates on local support services and referral pathways.
· Review staff training needs annually.
Curriculum and Whole-School Awareness
The school will promote awareness and understanding of young carers through:
PSHE Education
· Age-appropriate learning about caring roles, family diversity, wellbeing, empathy, and support networks.
· Opportunities for pupils to understand where and how to seek help if they or someone they know has caring responsibilities.

Worship

· Regular worship that raise awareness of young carers and celebrate diversity in family circumstances.
· Activities linked to national awareness campaigns, including Young Carers Action Day where appropriate.

School Community

· Information for parents and carers through newsletters, the school website, and other communication channels.
· Visible information about support available for young carers within the school.

Support for Young Carers

The school may provide support through:

· A designated Young Carers Lead.
· Access to pastoral support and wellbeing services.
· Flexibility regarding homework, deadlines, attendance at clubs, and participation in school activities where appropriate.
· Opportunities for young carers to meet and share experiences where suitable.
· Signposting and referral to specialist young carers services.

Support will be tailored to the individual needs of each pupil.

Pupil Voice and Annual Consultation

The school recognises the importance of listening to young carers and involving them in decisions that affect them.

The school will:

· Seek the views of identified young carers at least annually through surveys, discussions, focus groups, or individual meetings.
· Review the effectiveness of support provision based on feedback received.
· Use pupil voice to inform future planning, support arrangements, and school practice.
· Report findings and actions, where appropriate, to senior leaders and governors.

Working with Families and External Agencies

The school will:

· Work in partnership with parents, carers, and families wherever possible.
· Collaborate with local young carers services and other relevant agencies.
· Ensure information sharing is conducted appropriately and in accordance with safeguarding and data protection requirements.

Safeguarding

The school recognises that young carers may be vulnerable to additional pressures and challenges. Any safeguarding concerns identified through contact with a young carer will be managed in accordance with the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body.

The review will consider:

· Feedback from young carers.
· Attendance and wellbeing data where appropriate.
· Effectiveness of support provided.
· Staff training needs.
· Developments in local and national guidance.

Policy Review Date: _____

Next Review Date: _____

Approved by Governing Body: _____

Headteacher: _____

Young Carers Lead: _____

This policy demonstrates the school's commitment to recognising, supporting, and amplifying the voices of young carers, ensuring they are able to thrive both academically and personally.